

RANDOM NOTES AND DESCRIPTIONS
(COLEOPTERA).

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HYDROPORUS.

In my Revision of the North American Species of *Hydroporus* (1923), two errors of identification have since been detected. I refer to *H. persimilis* Cr. and *H. addendus* Cr. Crotch's descriptions of about three lines each appeared in his Dytiscidae paper of 1873 and are in themselves wholly inadequate as a means of identification. However in my preliminary survey of the Le Conte material at Cambridge I found examples purporting to be these species, the name label of *persimilis* being in Horn's hand and that of *addendus* in the writing of Le Conte. There seemed to be no reason for doubting the correctness of the labels and they were accepted as true representatives of the species. Crotch's descriptions were based on examples in the Horn cabinet, and later investigation with Mr. Liebeck's assistance shows definitely that both species in the Le Conte collection were wrongly named.

The true *H. persimilis*, it now appears, is that species which I described as new under the name *aequus*. The *persimilis* of the Le Conte collection as stated in my paper does not appear to differ specifically from *stagnalis*.

The true *H. addendus* is the species which I described as new under the name *pinguis*. This leaves the *addendus* of my revision without a name and I propose to call it **H. deceptus** n. n., which name may be substituted for *addendus* in my paper. I have attached the type label to the Ojai, Cal., specimen mentioned in the Revision. I have since received another example taken by Mr. A. C. Davis at Pasadena, Cal. IX-15-19.

Hydroporus brodei Gellerman, Pan Pacific Ent., V, p. 63 (Oct., 1928).

This agrees so completely with *H. quadrimaculatus* Horn in all essential features that it is impossible to consider it anything more than a smoother more northern variety of that species. It differs from the typical Nevada and California form of *quadrimaculatus* only in being more finely punctate, and in its generally better defined discal series of elytral punctures. In my two examples of the typical form the elytral series are detectable only with difficulty; in *brodei* they are fairly distinct as a rule, but in some ex-

amples are much less so. The character is evidently a variable one.

In his description of *quadrifasciatus* Horn calls attention to the acuminate produced ventral apex in the female. A precisely similar process of the last central exists in the female of *brodei* though not mentioned by its author. The structure is a very unusual one but occurs also in one or two other species of the subgenus *Oreodytes*. *Brodei* was described from Walla Walla, Washington; my examples are from North Bend, Wash. (Darlington), and Beaver Creek, Alberta (Carr).

Hydroporus barbarae n. sp.

Narrowly* oval, subdepressed, slightly attenuate behind, fuscous brown above, black beneath, legs and antennae reddish brown, the latter infusate toward the apex. Punctuation throughout almost precisely as in *terminalis*, to which it is most closely related and with which it nearly agrees in the comparatively wide (for the group) side margins of the prothorax. It differs from *terminalis* in its slightly larger size and less evenly oval outline and in the conspicuously more strongly developed protarsal claws of the male. In *terminalis* as in all previously known species of the group there is scarcely any detectable sexual difference in the claws, these being small and simple and sensibly equal on the front and middle feet. In the present species the claws of the protarsus are nearly twice as large as those of the mesotarsus, a little thickened and more abruptly curved at base.

Length 3 mm.; width 1.4 mm.

The unique male type bears label "S. Barbara sea sh. Cal., F. E. Winters." It was sent me by Mr. J. B. Wallis, who kindly allows me to retain the specimen.

DEROVATELLUS Sharp.

D. floridanus n. sp.

Elongate oval, widest at middle of length; head, thorax, antennae and legs yellow, the hind margin of the pronotum very narrowly edged with blackish in about its middle third; elytra fuscous brown, a small irregular obscure yellowish spot near the lateral margin just before the apical third; surface feebly shining and with rather sparse recumbent fulvous pubescence.

Head about three-fifths as wide as the thorax; eyes large, their width as viewed from the front a little more than half the interocular distance; surface finely sparsely punctate, clypeal margin not thickened.

Prothorax not quite two-fifths as long as wide, widest at base, sides broadly arcuate becoming straighter posteriorly, lateral margin very narrow; surface punctures nearly evenly distributed, a little coarser and closer than on the head.

Elytra twice as long as wide, as wide at base as the base of the thorax, pointed behind, sides arcuate throughout and making with sides of thorax a very flat angle; surface moderately closely not coarsely punctate, without trace of striae or rows of coarser punctures.

Metasternum and abdomen rufopiceous, the latter paler at apex; sides of body with numerous coarse punctures; anterior coxae rather narrowly separated, the prosternal process short, roof shaped, margined at sides and abutting against the contiguous middle coxae; posterior coxal lines subparallel, but slightly more distant anteriorly; apex of coxal processes conjointly broadly angularly emarginate. Basal two joints of pro- and mesotarsi in the male moderately dilated, slightly longer than wide, their apices a little oblique; third joint almost linear, about four times as long as wide; tarsal claws all very small and slender.

Length (type) 3.9 mm.; width 1.7 mm.

Described from three examples, all males and of uniform size, sent me by Mr. W. S. Blatchley, who writes that they with one other were taken at light by Mr. M. F. Jones at Royal Palm Park, Florida, during January and February, 1930. The type, bearing date Jan. 7, remains in my collection; two paratypes dated Feb. 3 are returned to Mr. Blatchley.

The appearance of this species in Southern Florida is noteworthy as being the first known instance of the occurrence of the genus *Derovatellus* within our faunal limits. Only three species of the genus have been previously described, viz., *D. lentus* Wehncke (Stett. Ent. Zeit., 1876, p. 357) from "South America and the Antilles" (Sharp); *D. bruchi* Zimm. (Archiv. fur Naturgeschichte, 1919, p. 125) from Argentina, and *D. orientalis* Wehn. (Deuts. Ent. Zeits., 1883, p. 149) from Borneo. If the last named species is strictly congeneric with the others it indicates a quite remarkable distribution.

The present species must be rather nearly allied to *lentus*, but according to description this latter has the elytra without maculation, the sides of the prothorax subsinuate, and the form much stouter, since by Sharp's measurements, with a shorter length the width is actually greater than in *floridanus*. In general aspect *D. floridanus* rather strikingly resembles an enlarged *Bidessus* of the

subgenus *Bidessonotus* (*B. pulicarius*, etc.) except that it lacks the striae at base of prothorax and elytra; it is however at once separable from *Bidessus* and from every other *Dytiscide* of our fauna with the single exception of the rare *Macrovatellus mexicanus* of Lower California by the prominent contiguous middle coxae, which prevent the prosternal process from attaining the metasternum.

TALANUS

In the Canadian Entomologist, 1895, p. 321, Dr. John Hamilton—apparently quoting Dr. Horn—states that the *Talanus* (*Dig-namptus*) *langurinus* and *T. stenochinus* of Le Conte are two names representing the extremes of one species, and that Horn calls the species as a whole *langurinus*. This dictum is followed in the Leng Catalog although according to nomenclatorial rules the name should be *stenochinus* rather than *langurinus* because of page precedence. This however need not concern us for it is quite certain that Horn and Hamilton were in error in this matter, the two species in question really being quite distinct from each other.

In describing his *T. okechobensis* (Can. Ent., 1914, p. 143) Blatchley realized that there were two species of *Talanus* in Florida, but he was at fault in that he failed to recognize that his species was precisely the same as Le Conte's *stenochinus*.

Our two species may be separated by the following characters: *Talanus stenochinus* Lec. (= *okechobensis* Blatch.).

Size larger (6–7 mm.), castaneous brown without aeneous lustre; elytral punctures occupying distinct grooves; front and middle tibiae toothed at about apical third or fourth in both sexes, hind tibiae simple.

T. langurinus Lec.

Smaller and a little more slender, length $3\frac{1}{2}$ –5 mm.; color castaneous, the elytra with faint aeneous lustre; elytral series except the sutural scarcely impressed; all the tibiae in the male with a small acute tooth slightly nearer the apex than in *stenochinus*, all the tibiae in the female simple.

Blatchley's statement that the front tibiae are not toothed in *langurinus* is probably due to his having examined only females.

It is difficult to explain just why Le Conte described both of these species as "black," for not only are all his specimens of the usual chestnut brown color but it is highly improbable that he or any one else ever saw a black individual of either species.